

## **Erie National Wildlife Refuge**

### **Internship Program**

Generally, internships are full-time (or nearly full-time) short term volunteer positions. Most often, students or recent graduates do internships for academic credit or to gain on-the-job experience.

The particular internships available at the Refuge include:

#### **Outreach & Interpretation:**

Interns provide visitor services, assist with special events, develop outreach and educational materials, represent the Refuge at community events, and design self-guided interpretive activities for all ages.

Applicants must have a valid driver's license, good verbal and written communication skills, be able to work independently, as well as part of a team, and enjoy creative activities. Applicants should have (or be pursuing) a Bachelor's degree in environmental education, interpretation, communications, natural resources, wildlife biology or other related field.

This position is available year-round.

#### **Wildlife and Habitat Management:**

Interns monitor wildlife populations and habitat conditions, work to eradicate invasive plants, assist with research studies, monitor wildlife populations, map management activities, enter and analyze data, and prepare management plans.

Applicants shall have (or be pursuing) a Bachelor's degree in natural resources, wildlife management, environmental biology, or other related field. Field work experience is desired, however the ability and willingness to do field work is required. Potential interns must be able to work independently and as well as part of a team, and have a valid State driver's license.

This position is available from March through October.

#### **Housing and Stipend**

Internships are generally 12 weeks, with an option to extend if mutually beneficial. A subsistence payment and free housing may be available. Housing provided consists of a fully-furnished home with three bedrooms, a kitchen, living room and one bathroom. Same sex bedroom assignments are made, however common areas may be shared by both males and females. A personal vehicle is required. A government-owned vehicle will be provided for official duties.

## **Local Area**

The Refuge headquarters is in Guys Mills, PA, a rural agricultural community. Ten miles away, the city of Meadville fulfills basic needs of gas stations, grocery stores, drug stores, and some shopping and entertainment opportunities. Approximately 35 miles from the Refuge, the mid-size city of Erie, PA, can be found on the shores of Lake Erie. Within a two hour drive, the cities of Buffalo, NY; Cleveland, OH; and Pittsburgh, PA are readily accessible.

Allegheny National Forest, Presque Isle State Park, Pymatuning State Park, Chautauqua Lake, Lake Erie, French Creek, Peek 'n Peak Ski Resort, and many other areas/attractions provide opportunities for a variety of outdoor activities.

## **Application for Internship**

Send a letter of interest, resume, and three references with current phone numbers via email to [FW5RW\\_ENWR@FWS.gov](mailto:FW5RW_ENWR@FWS.gov) (indicate "Internship Application" in the subject line) or mail to: Erie National Wildlife Refuge, Attn: Deputy Refuge Manager, 11296 Wood Duck Lane, Guys Mills, PA 16327.

Please specify in your cover letter, the internship position and proposed schedule you are applying for, housing needs, and any academic requirements (if applicable).